

p21 3/31

THE
ORDINANCE
AND DECLARATION

of the *Lords and Commons*, for the
Assessing all such who have not con-
tributed sufficiently for raising of
Money, Plate, &c.

WITH
HIS MAJESTIES
DECLARATION TO ALL
His loving Subjects upon
occasion thereof.

Charles R.

OUR expresse pleasure is, That this Our De-
claration be published in all Churches and
Chappels within Our Kingdom of *England* and
Dominion of *wales*, by the Parsons, Vicars or Cu-
rates of the same.



SHREWSBURY,

Printed by ROBERT BARKER, Printer to the
Kings most Excellent Majestie: And by the
Assignes of JOHN BILE. 1642.

768+

EX

LIBRIS



FAIRFAX OF CAMERON

C3.02.2H3.010.

RB28 a 10764

p21 3/31

THE
ORDINANCE
AND DECLARATION

of the *Lords and Commons*, for the
Assessing all such who have not con-
tributed sufficiently for raising of
Money, Plate, &c.

WITH
HIS MAJESTIES
DECLARATION TO ALL
His loving Subjects upon
occasion thereof.

Charles R.

OUR expresse pleasure is, That this Our De-
claration be published in all Churches and
Chappels within Our Kingdom of *England* and
Dominion of *wales*, by the Parsons, Vicars or Cu-
rates of the same.



SHREWSBURY,

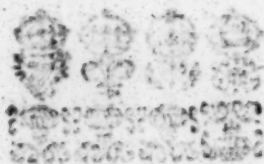
Printed by ROBERT BARKER, Printer to the
Kings most Excellent Majestie: And by the
Assignes of JOHN BILL. 1642.

THE ORDINANCE AND DECLARATION

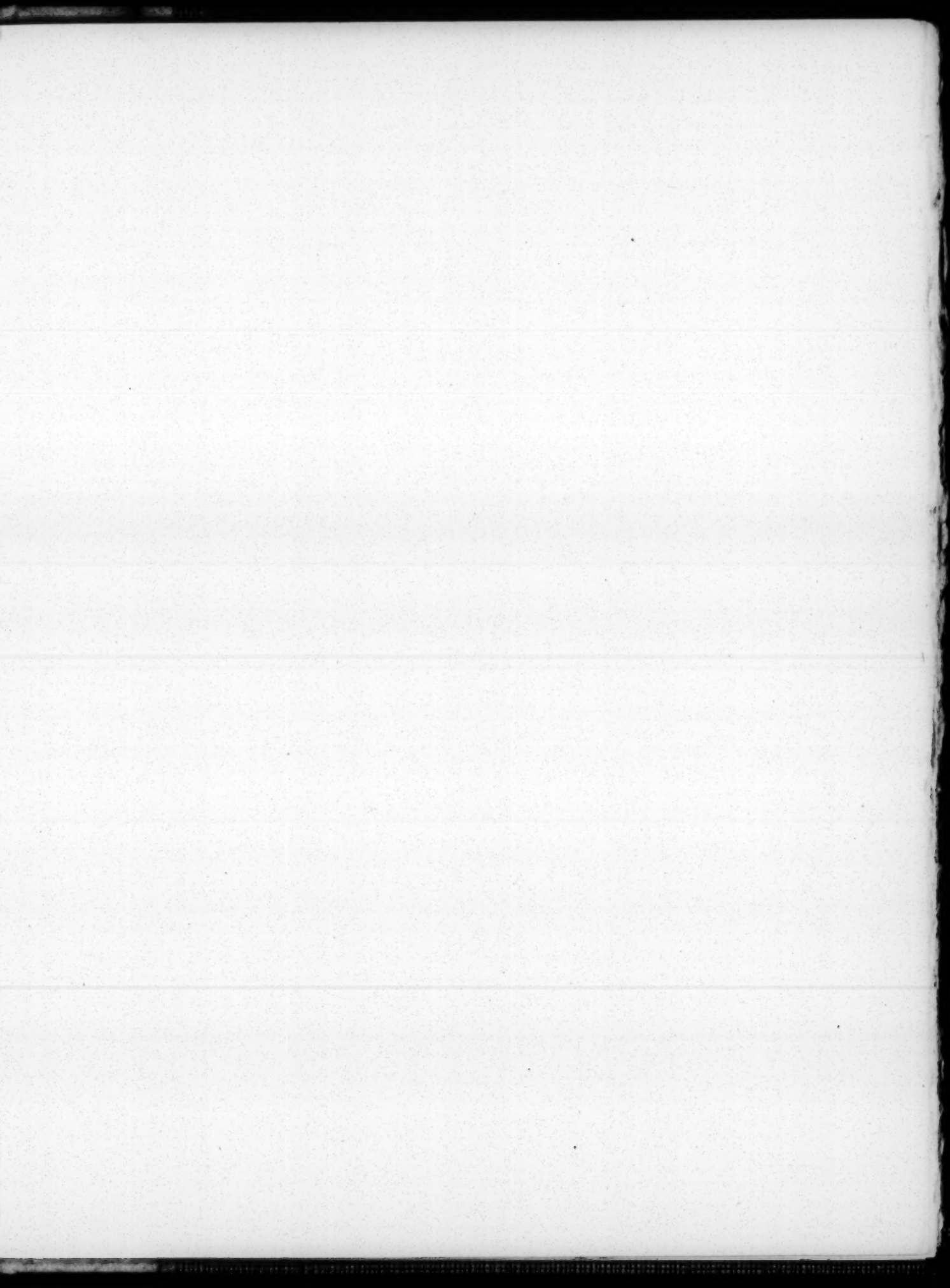
of the Lords and Commons for the
Assenting all such who have not con-
sidered sufficiently for raising of
Money, &c.

WITH
WITNESSES
DECLARATION TO ALL
His loving Subjects upon
a certain Matter.

Charles R.
Our especial pleasure is, That this Our De-
claration be published in all Churches and
Chapels within Our Kingdom of England and
Dominion of Wales, by the Parsons, Vicars or Cu-
racs of the same.



SHREWSBURY
Printed by ROBERT PARKER, Printer to the
King most Excellent Majesty: And by the
Assignees of JOHN BELL 1642.



An Ordinance and Declaration of the
Lords and Commons in Parliament.



Whereas the King, seduced by wicked Counsell, hath raised an Army, and levied War against the Parliament, and great number of Forces are daily raised under the commands of Papists and other ill-affected persons, by Commissions from His Majestie; And whereas divers Delinquents are protected from punishment like Justice by His Majesties Army, and sundry outrages and rapines are daily committed by the Souldiers of the said Army, who have no respect to the Laws of God or the Land, but burn and plunder the Houses, & seize and destroy the persons and goods of divers His Majesties good Subjects; And whereas for the maintenance of the said Army divers Assessments are made upon severall Counties, and His Majesties Subjects are compelled by the Souldiers to pay the same, which said Army if it should continue, would soon ruine and waste the whole Kingdom, and overthrow Religion, Law, and Liberty. For suppressing of which said Army and ill-affected persons, there is no probable way under God, but by the Army raised by Authority of the Parliament; which said Army so raised, cannot be maintained without great summes of Money, yet for raising such summes, by reason of His Majesties withdrawing himself from the advice of the Parliament, there can be no Act of Parliament passed with His Majesties assent, albeit there is great justice that the said Moneys should be raised. The Lords and Commons in Parliament, having taken the same into their

serious consideration, and knowing that the said Army so raised by them, hath been hitherto for the most part maintained by the voluntary contribution of divers well-affected persons, who have freely contributed according to their abilities.

But considering there are divers others within the Cities of *London* and *Westminster*, and the Suburbs of the same, and also within the Borough of *Southwark*, that have not contributed at all towards the maintenance of the said Army, or if they have, yet not answerable to their Estates, who notwithstanding receive benefit and protection by the same Army, as well as any others, and therefore it's most just, that they should as well as others be charged to contribute to the maintenance thereof.

Be it therefore Ordained by the Lords and Commons in Parliament assembled, & by Authority thereof, That *Isaac Pennington* Lord Mayor of the City of *London*, Sir *John Wollaston* Knight and Alderman, Alderman *Towes*, Alderman *Warner*, Alderman *Andrewes*, Alderman *Chambers*, Alderman *Fowkes*, Sir *Thomas Seham* Knight and Alderman, *Samuel Vassell*, *John Ven*, *Morris Thompson*, & *Richard Warrin*, Citizens, or any four of them, shall hereby have power and Authority to nominate, and appoint in every Ward within the City of *London*, six such Persons as they, or any four of them, shall think fit, which said six so nominated, or any four of them, shall hereby have power to enquire of any that shall remain, or be within the said severall Wards that have not contributed upon the Propositions of both Houses of Parliament, concerning the raising of Money, Plate, Horse, Horsemen, and Arms, for defence of the King and both Houses of Parliament, & also of such as are able men, that have contributed, yet not according to their Estates and Abilities: And the said six persons so nominated, or any four of them within their severall and respective wards and limits, shall have power to assesse such person or persons as are of ability and have not contributed, and also such as have contributed, yet not according to their ability, to pay such sum or
sums

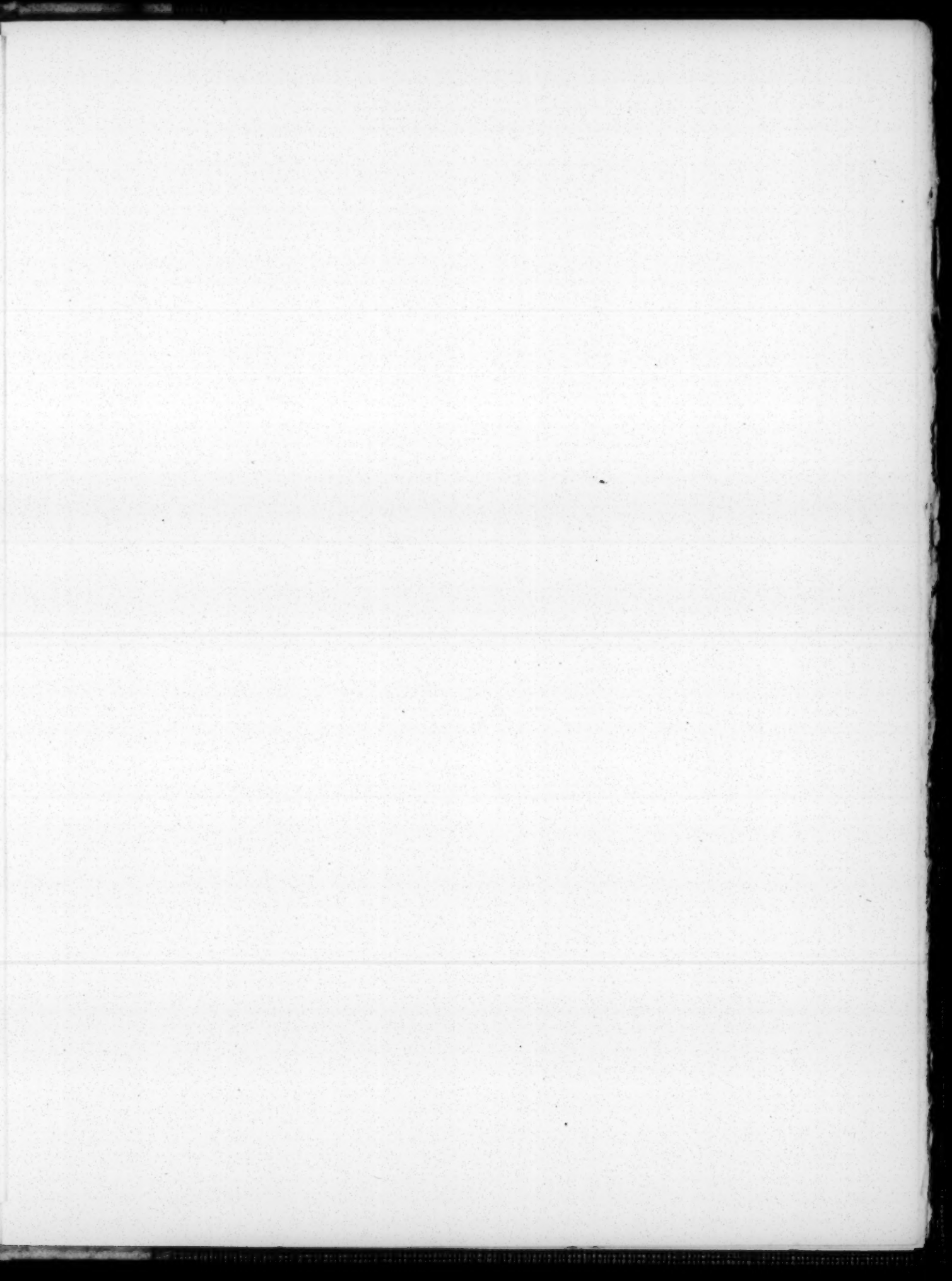
sums of Money according to their Estates, as the said Assessors or any four of them shall think fit and reasonable, so as the same exceed not the twentieth part of their Estates, and to nominate and appoint fit persons for the collection thereof. And if any person so assessed shall refuse to pay the Money assessed upon him, it shall be lawfull to and for the said Assessors and Collectors, or any of them, to levy the said summe so assessed by way of distresse and sale of the goods of the person so assessed, and refusing: And if any person so distrained shall make resistance, it shall be lawfull to and for the respective Assessors and Collectors or any of them, to call to their assistance any the Trained bands of the said City of *London*, or any other His Majesties Subjects, who are hereby required to be ayding and assisting to the said Assessors and Collectors in the premises. And it is hereby further ordained, That the respective Burgeses of *Vestminster* and *Southwark*, together with the severall Committees appointed for the subscriptions of Money, Plate, Horse, Horsemen and Arms within the said City and Borough, shall respectively have power hereby to nominate Sessors for the same City and Borough, in such manner as the Lord Major, &c. hath for the City of *London*, and the said Assessors, or any four of them, to name Collectors as aforesaid; which said Assessors and Collectors shall have the same power respectively within their respective limits, as those to be nominated within the said City of *London* have hereby limited to them. And for the Suburbs of *London* and *Westminster*, the respective Knights of the Shires where the said Suburbs are shall have hereby the like power to name Assessors, and they so named, or any four of them, and the Collectors by them to be nominated, or any of them within their respective limits, shall have the like power respectively as the Assessors and Collectors for *London* have by vertue of this Ordinance. And be it ordained that the summes so assessed and levied as aforesaid shall be paid in at Guild Hall *London*, to the hands of Sir *Iohn Wollastone*,

Knight, *John Warner*, *John Towes*, and *Thomas Andrewes* Aldermen, or any two of them: And the Assessors and Collectors to be nominated by vertue hereof shall weekly report to the Committee of the House of Commons, for the propositions aforesaid, what summes of money have been assessed, and what summes have been levied weekly according to the purport hereof, and the said Moneys so levied and paid in shall be issued forth in such sort as the other Moneys raised upon the propositions aforesaid, and not otherwise.

Die Martis, 29. Novemb. 1642.

WHereas a late Ordinance is passed by both Houses of Parliament, for the Reasons therein declared, for the Assessing of all such persons within the Cities of *London* and *Westminster*, and the Suburbs thereof, with the Borough of *Southwark*, as have not contributed upon the Propositions of both Houses of Parliament for raising of Money, Plate, Horse, Horsemen, and Arms, for defence of the King's Parliament and Kingdom, or have not contributed proportionably to their estates and abilities. And whereas it is thought fit, that some additions be made for further explanation and better execution of the said Ordinance. Be it further ordained and declared by the Lords and Commons assembled in Parliament: That such persons as shall be assessed by the respective Assessors in the said Ordinance appointed, and shall within six dayes next after notice given to them, or left at their severall houses within the said Cities, Suburbs, or Borough, pay in the one moiety of the said sums of Money so assessed, and within twelve dayes after the said notice given as aforesaid, the other moiety thereof, unto the Treasurers of Money and Plate in *Guild Hall London*, or unto the Collectors appointed by the said Ordinance, respectively to receive the same, that then the said Treasurers, or Collectors, shall give Acquittances for the same,

as



as hath been done to such who have lent Moneys or Plate, upon the Propositions of both Houses as aforesaid. And the said Moneys so paid to the said Treasurers, or to the said severall Collectors, shall be repaid upon the Publike Faith, as all other Moneys lent upon the said Propositions of both Houses. And as for those who shall so farre discover their disaffection, as not to bring in the severall sums of Money so assessed upon them to the persons before appointed, within the times limited, that then their goods shall be distrained and sold according to the said Ordinance. And if no sufficient Distresse be found, that then the said Collectors shall respectively have power to enquire of any sum or sums of Money due, or to be due unto them respectively so assessed from any person or persons for any Rents, Tithes, Goods, or Debts, or for any other thing or cause whatsoever. And the said respective Collectors shall have power by vertue of this Ordinance, to receive all, or any part of the said sums due, or to be due unto them or any of them so assessed, untill the full value of the sum or sums so assessed, and the charges in levying and recovering of the same shall be received and satisfied. And the said respective Collectors shall have further power to compound for any of the said Rents, Tithes, Goods, or Debts due unto the said person so assessed respectively as aforesaid, with any person or persons by whom the said Rents, Tithes, Goods, or Debts, are, or shall be owing, as also to give full and ample discharge for the Money by them so received, upon composition or otherwise, which discharges shall be good and effectuell to all intents and purposes. And if the summe or summes of Money so assessed cannot be levied by any of these meanes or wayes, then the persons so respectively assessed, shall be imprisoned in such places of this Kingdom, and for so long time as the Committee of the House of Commons for Examinations, shall appoint and order: And the families of all such persons so imprisoned, shall no longer remain within the Cities of

London

London and Westminster the Suburbs & the Counties adjacent.

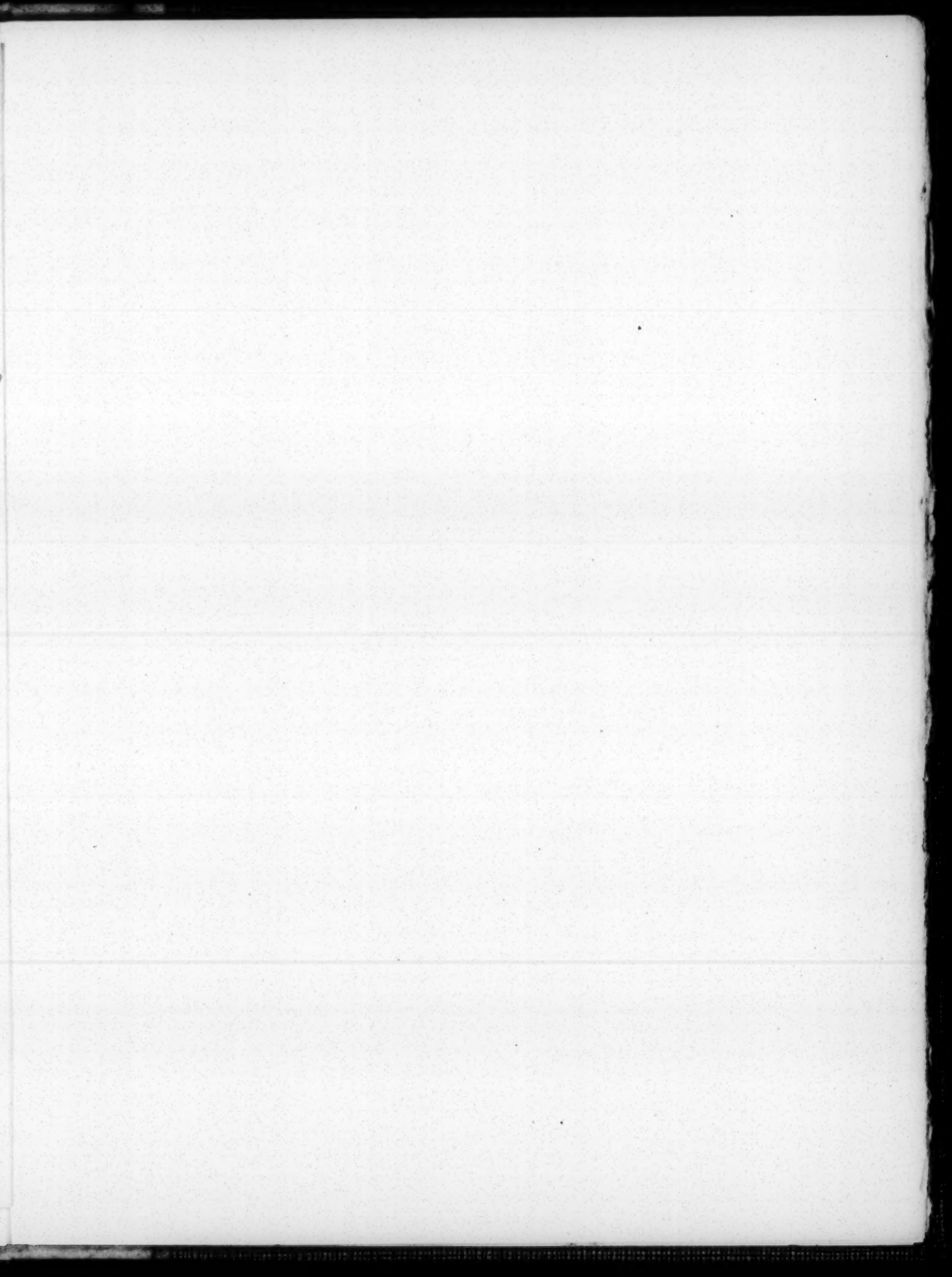
And be it further Ordained, that all and every the Assessors and Collectors of the said severall summes, shall have the protection of both Houses of Parliament for their indemnity in this service, and receive such reasonable allowances for their pains taken, and charges disbursed, or to be disbursed therein, as the Committee of Lords and Commons for advance of Money and other necessities for the Army raised by the Parliament, shall apportion and appoint.

An Ordinance of both Houses of Parliament, for the better Provision of Victuals, and other Necessaries for the Army, and for payment and satisfaction to be made for such Provisions.

Die Martis, 29. Novemb. 1642.

IT is Ordered by the Lords and Commons in Parliament, That Committees shall be named in all Counties, to take care for provisions of Victuals for the Army raised by the Parliament, as likewise for the taking up of Horses for service in the Field, Dragoners, and Draught-Horses; as likewise for borrowing of Money or Plate to supply the Army. Which Committees, or any two or more of them, shall have power and authority to value all kinde of Provisions both for Men and Horse, all kinde of Horse for Service, or otherwise, which shall be voluntarily offered to be lent upon the Publike Faith, or likewise to receive any Money or Plate to be lent as before; and that upon Certificate of any two of such Committees, the same provisions of Horses, Money, and Plate, and the value thereof shall be entred by the Treasurer of the Propositions, and shall be repayed to the party from whom the same was received, with like Consideration as other Money lent.

And in case the owners of such provisions, Money, Plate, and Horses, shall refuse or neglect to bring in the same upon
Publike



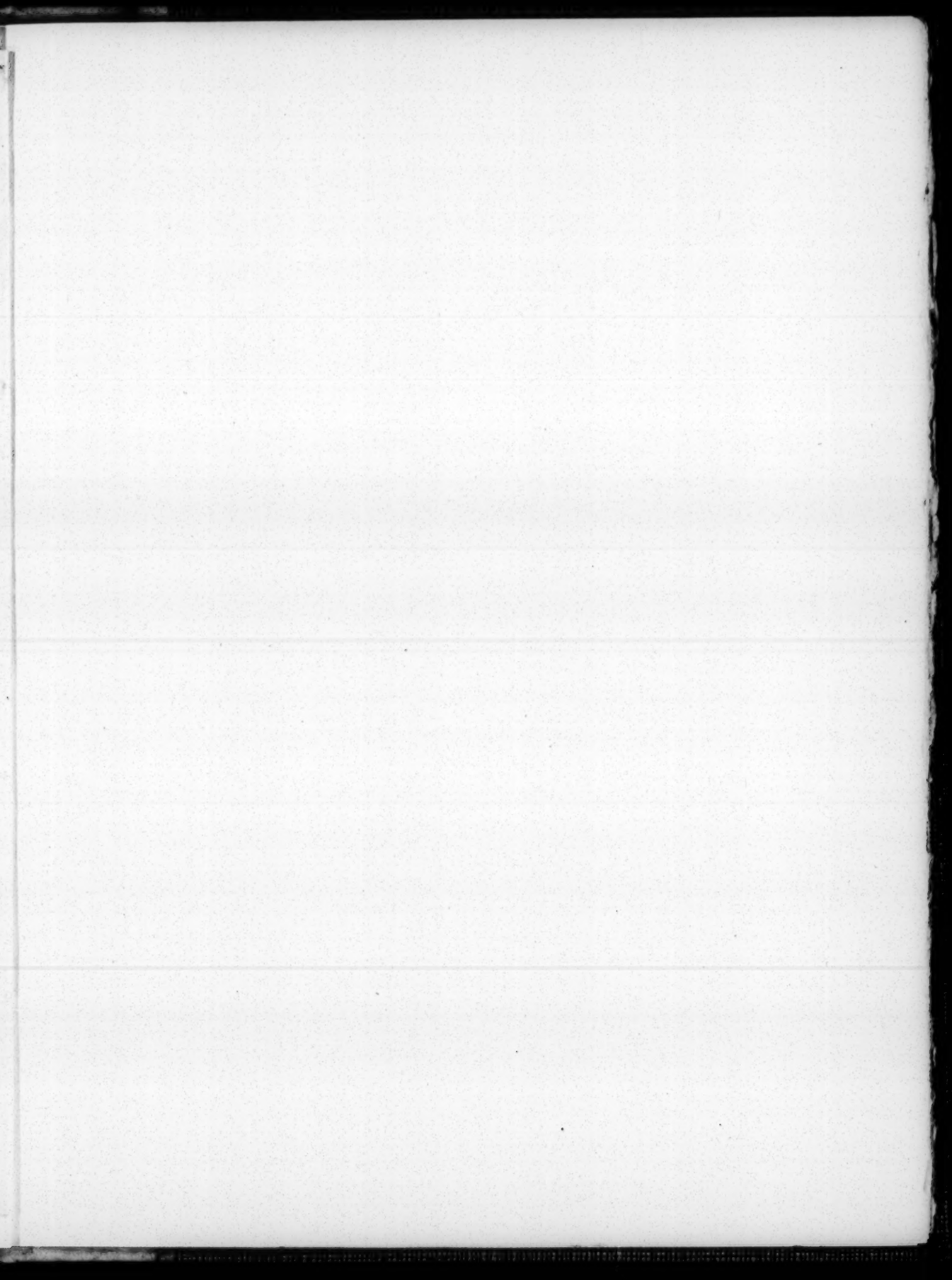
Publike Faith, for the use of the Army, for the better preventing the spoyle and embezzling of such provisions of Money, Plate, and Horses, by the disorder of the Souldiers, and that they may not come into the hands of the Enemies. It is further ordered, That the Committees afore mentioned, or any two of them, be hereby authorized and enabled to send for such Provisions, Money, Plate, and Horses, and take the same into their custody, and to set an indifferent value and rate upon them; which value they shall certifie to the Treasurers for the Propositions, to be repaid at such time, and in such manner, as shall be Ordered by both Houses of Parliament. It is likewise Ordered, That the said Committees of the severall and respective Counties shall meet and consult with the Committees of the adjacent and neighbour Counties, unto the place or places where the said Army, or any part thereof, shall passe and remain, concerning the receiving, procuring, valuing, and disposing of such provisions, Horses, Money, and Plate. And if they cannot conveniently meet, that then it shall be lawfull for any two, or more of the Committee, to execute the severall Services above mentioned in the adjoyning Counties, as well as in the County wherein he is named a Committee; and that such certificates as they shall make of any Provisions, Horses, Money, or Plate, shall be as effectuell for the securities of the parties, as if the same were received and taken within the County for which he or they are named Committees. And the said Committees, or any two, or more of them, shall cause the said provisions to be delivered to the Commissary for the Victuals, or to his Deputy, and such other Officers of the Army, who may be charged with the same upon their accompt, and shall certifie the Treasurer of the Army, or his Deputy, that so defalcation of the value thereof may be made out of the pay of such Officers and Souldiers as shall receive the same.

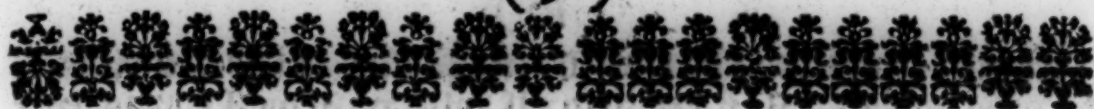
B

And

And the said Committee shall likewise cause all such Money and Plate to be delivered unto the Treasurer of the Army, or his Deputy, who shall take care to convey the Plate unto the Treasurer for the Propositions, and shall be charged with all such Money upon his account, as with other Money received from them,

His.





HIS MAJESTIES
DECLARATION
 TO ALL HIS LOVING SUBJECTS,
 upon occasion of the aforesaid *Ordinance*
 and *Declaration*.

I would not be beleebed (at least great
 pains have been taken that it might not)
 that the pretended *Ordinance* of the Mi-
 licia (the first attempt that ever was to
 make a Law by *Ordinance* without
 Our consent) or the keeping Us out of
 Hull, and taking Our Arms and Munition
 from Us, could any way concern the Interest, Pro-
 perty, or Liberty of the Subject, and it was confessed by
 that desperate Declaration it self of the 26. of May, that
 if they were found guilty of that charge of destroying the
 title and interest of Our Subjects to their Lands and
 Goods, it were indeed a very great Crime. But it was
 a strange fatall Lethargy which had seized Our good
 People, and kept them from discerning, that the Nob-
 lity, Gentry, Commonalty of England, were not onely
 stripped of their Preeminences and Priviledges, but of
 their Liberties and Estates, when Our just Rights
 were denyed Us; and that no Subject could from thence-
 forth expect to dwell at home, when we were driven from
 Our Houses and Our Towns. It was not possible, that
 a Commission could be granted to the Earle of Essex, to
 raise an Army against Us, and for the safety of Our
 Person,

person, and preservation of the Peace of the Kingdom, to pursue, kill & slay us and all who wish well to us, but that in a short time inferior Commanders, by the same Authority, would require our good Subjects for the maintenance of the Property of the Subject, to supply them with such summes of Money as they think fit, upon the penalty of being punished with all extremity of War (as the stile of Sir Edward Baytons Warrant runs against our poore Subjects in Wiltshire) and by such Rules of unlimited Arbitrary Power, as are inconsistent with the least pretence or shadow of that Property it would seem to defend.

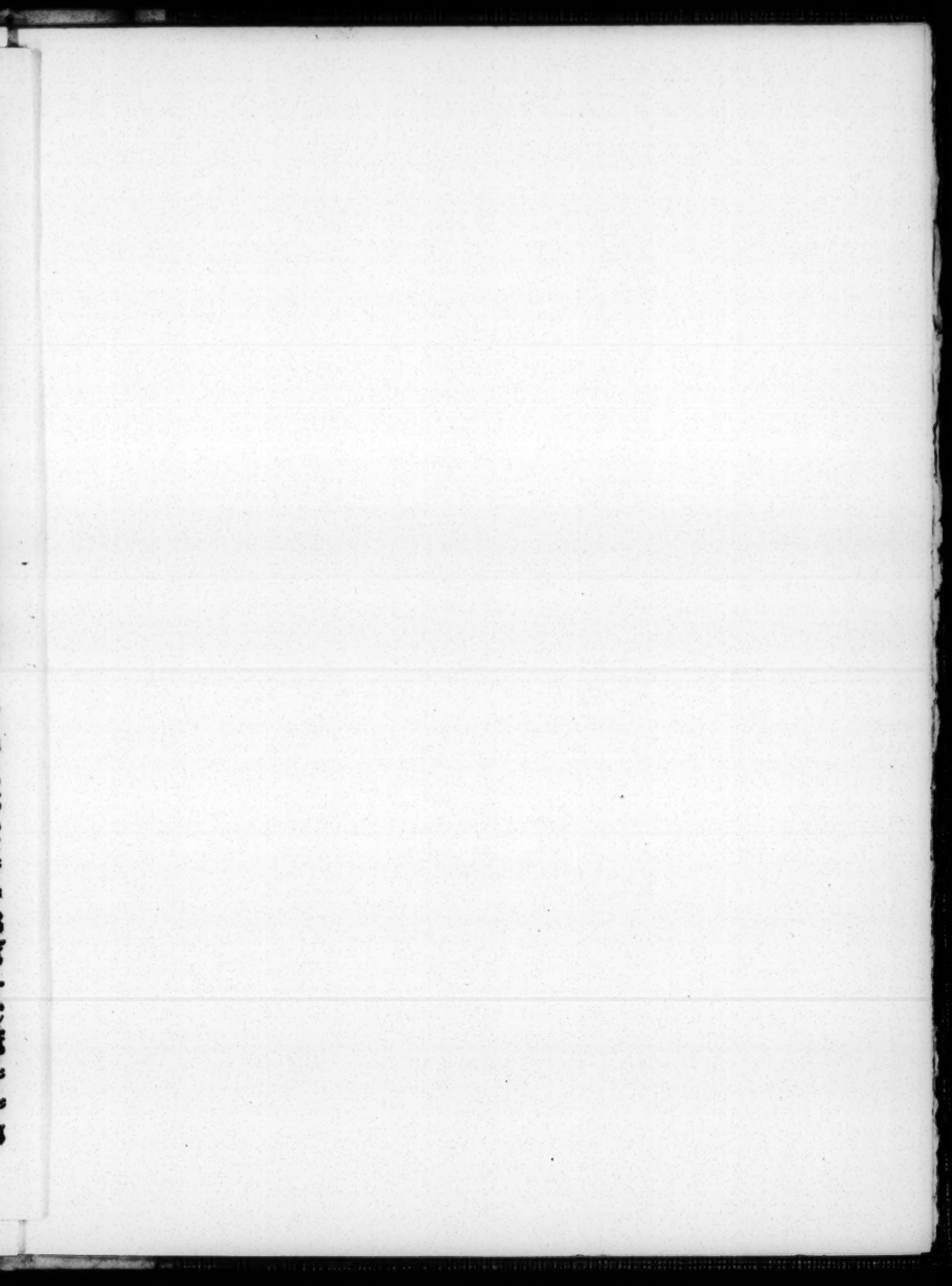
If there could be yet any understanding so unskilfull and Supine to beleve, That these Disturbers of the publique peace do intend any thing but a generall confusion, they have brought them a sad Argument to their own doores to convince them; after this Ordinance and Declaration, tis not in any sober mans power to lea-ve himself worth any thing, or that there is such a thing as Law, Liberty, Property left in England, under the Jurisdiction of these men, and the same power that robs them now of the Twentieth part of their Estates, hath by that but made a claime and entitled it self to the other Nineteen, when it shall be thought fit to hasten the generall ruine. Sure, if the minds of all men be not stubbornly prepared for Servitude, they will looke on this Ordinance as the greatest Prodigie of Arbitrary Power and Tyranny that any Age hath brought forth in any Kingdom, other Grievances (and the greatest) have been conceived intolerable, rather by the Logique and Consequence, then by the Pressure it self, this at once sweeps away all that the Wisdom and Justice of Parliaments have provided for them. Is their Property in their Estates (so carefully looked to by their Ancestors,

cessors, and so amply established by us against any possibility of Invasion from the Crown) which makes the meanest Subject as much a Lord of his own as the greatest Peer, to be valued or considered? here is a Twentieth part of every mans Estate (or so much more as four men will please to call the Twentieth part) taken away at once, and yet a Power left to take a Twentieth still of that which remains, and this to be levied by such circumstances of severity, as no Act of Parliament ever consented to. Is their liberty which distinguishes Subjects from Slaves, and in which this free born Nation hath the Advantage of all Christendom, dear to them? they shall not onely be imprisoned in such places of this Kingdom, (a latitude of Judgement no Court can challenge to it self in any Cases) but for so long time as the Committee of the house of Commons for examination shall appoint and order; the House of Commons it self having never assumed, or in the least degree pretended to a power of Judicature, having no more Authority to administer an Oath (the onely way to discover and finde out the truth of facts) to, then to cut off the heads of any of Our Subjects; and this Committee being so far from being a part of the Parliament, that it is destructive to the whole, by usurping to it self all the power of King, Lords, & Commons. All who know any thing of Parliaments, know, That a Committee of either House ought not by the Law to publish their own Results, neither are their conclusions of any force without the Confirmation of the House, which hath the same power of controlling them as if the matter had never been debated; but that any Committee should be so contracted (as this of Examination, a stile no Committee ever bore before this Parliament) as to exclude the Members of the House, who are equally trusted by their Countrey, from

being present at the Counsell, is so monstrous to the Priviledges of Parliament, that it is no more in the power of any man to give up that freedom, then of himself to order, That from that time the place for which he serves, shall never more send a Knight or Burgesse to the Parliament; and in truth is no lesse then to alter the whole frame of Government, to pull up Parliaments by the Roots, and to commit the Lives, Liberties, and Estates of all the People of England to the Arbitrary power of a few unqualified Persons, who shall dispose thereof according to their discretion, without account to any Rule or Authority whatsoever.

Are their friends, their wives, and Children (the greatest blessings of Peace and the comforts of Life) precious to them? would even their penury and imprisonment be lesse grievous by those cordials? they shall be divorced from them, banished, and shall no longer remain within the Cities of London and Wellminster, the Suburbs and the Counties adjacent, and how far those adjacent Counties shall extend no man knows.

Is there any thing now left to enjoy, but the Liberty to Rebell, and destroy one another? are the outward blessings onely of Peace, Property, and Liberty taken, and forced from Our Subjects? are their Consciences free and unassaulted by the violence of these fire-brands? sure the Liberty and freedom of Conscience cannot suffer by these men: Alasse! all these punishments are imposed upon them, because they will not submit to Actions contrary to their naturall Loyalty, to their Oathes of Allegiance and Supremacy, and to their late voluntary Protestation, which obliges them to the care of Our Person and Our just Rights. How many Persons of Honour, Quality, and Reputation of the severall Counties of England, are now Imprisoned, without any objection



section against them, but suspicion of their Loyalty? how many of the gravest and most substantiall Citizens of London, by whom the Government and Discipline of that City was preserved, are disgraced, robbed, and imprisoned, without any Processe of Law, or colour of accusation, but of obedience to the Law and Government of the Kingdom? whilst Anabaptists and Brownists, with the assistance of vicious and deboshed Persons, of desperate Fortunes, take upon them to break up and rife houses, as publike and avowed Ministers of a new invented Authority: How many godly, pious, and painfull Divines, whose Lives and Learning hath made them of reverend Estimation, are now slandered with inclination to Popery, discountenanced and imprisoned, for discharging their Consciences in instructing the People in the Christian duty of Religion and Obedience, whilst Schismaticall, Illiterate, and Scandalous Preachers fill the Pulpits and Churches with Blasphemy, Irreverence, and Treason, and incite their Auditory to nothing but Murther and Rebellion. We passe over the vulgar charm, by which they have captivated such who have been contented to dispence with their Consciences for the preservation of their Estates, and by which they perswade men cheerfully to part with this twentieth part of their Estate to the good work in hand, for whoever will give what he hath, may scape robbing; They shall be repaid upon the Publike Faith, as all other Monies lent upon the Propositions of both Houses; It may be so, but men must be condemned to a strange unchristianesse who will lend upon such Security. The Publike Faith indeed is as great an earnest as the State can give, and engages the Honour, Reputation and Honesty of the Nation, and is the Act of the Kingdom, tis the Security of the King, the Lords and Commons, which can never

never need an Executor, can never dye, never be Bankrupt, and therefore we willingly consented to it for the Indemnity of Our good Subjects of Scotland, (who we hope will not thinke the worse of it for being so often & so cheaply mentioned since.) But that a vote of one or both Houses should be an engagement upon the publique Faith, is as impossible, as that the Committee of the House of Commons for Examinations, should be the High Court of Parliament.

And what is or can be said with the least shadow of reason to justify these Extravagances? we have not lately heard of the old fundamentall Laws which used to warrant the Innovations, this needs a Refuge even below those foundations: They will say they cannot manage their great undertakings without such extraordinary wayes, we think so too, but that proves onely they have undertaken somewhat they ought not to undertake, not that it is lawfull for them to do any thing that is convenient for those ends: we remember them long agoe, and we cannot do it too often, of that excellent Speech of *M. Pym*: The Law is that which puts a difference betwixt good and evil, betwixt just and unjust, if you take away the Law, all things will fall into a confusion, every man will become a Law unto himself, which in the depraved condition of humane nature, must needs produce many great enormities, Lust will become a Law, and Envy will become a Law, Covetousnesse and Ambition will become Laws, and what Dictates, what Decisions such Laws will produce may easily be discerned. It may indeed by the sad Instances over the whole Kingdom: But will Posterity beleve, that in the same Parliament this Doctrine was abowed with that Acclamation, and these Instances after produced: That in the same Parliament such care was taken that no man should be committed in what case soever, with-
out



never need an Executor, can never dye, never be Bankrupt, and therefore we willingly consented to it for the Indemnity of Our good Subjects of Scotland, (who we hope will not thinke the worse of it for being so often & so cheaply mentioned since.) But that a vote of one or both Houses should be an engagement upon the publick Faith, is as impossible, as that the Committee of the House of Commons for Examinations, should be the High Court of Parliament.

And what is or can be said with the least shadow of reason to justify these Extravagances? we have not lately heard of the old fundamentall Lawes which used to warrant the Innovations, this needs a Refuge even below those foundations: They will say they cannot manage their great undertakings without such extraordinary wayes; we think so too, but that proves onely they have undertaken somewhat they ought not to undertake, not that it is lawfull for them to do any thing that is convenient for those ends: we remember them long agoe, and we cannot do it too often, of that excellent Speech of Mr. Pym: The Law is that which puts a difference betwixt good and evil, betwixt just and unjust, if you take away the Law, all things will fall into a confusion, every man will become a Law unto himself, which in the depraved condition of humane nature, must needs produce many great enormities, Lust will become a Law, and Envy will become a Law, Covetousnesse and Ambition will become Laws, and what Dictates, what Decisions such Laws will produce may easily be discerned. It may indeed be the sad Instances over the whole Kingdom: But will Posterity beleve, that in the same Parliament this Doctrine was abounded with that Acclamation, and these Instances after produced? That in the same Parliament such care was taken that no man should be committed in what case soever, with-

out

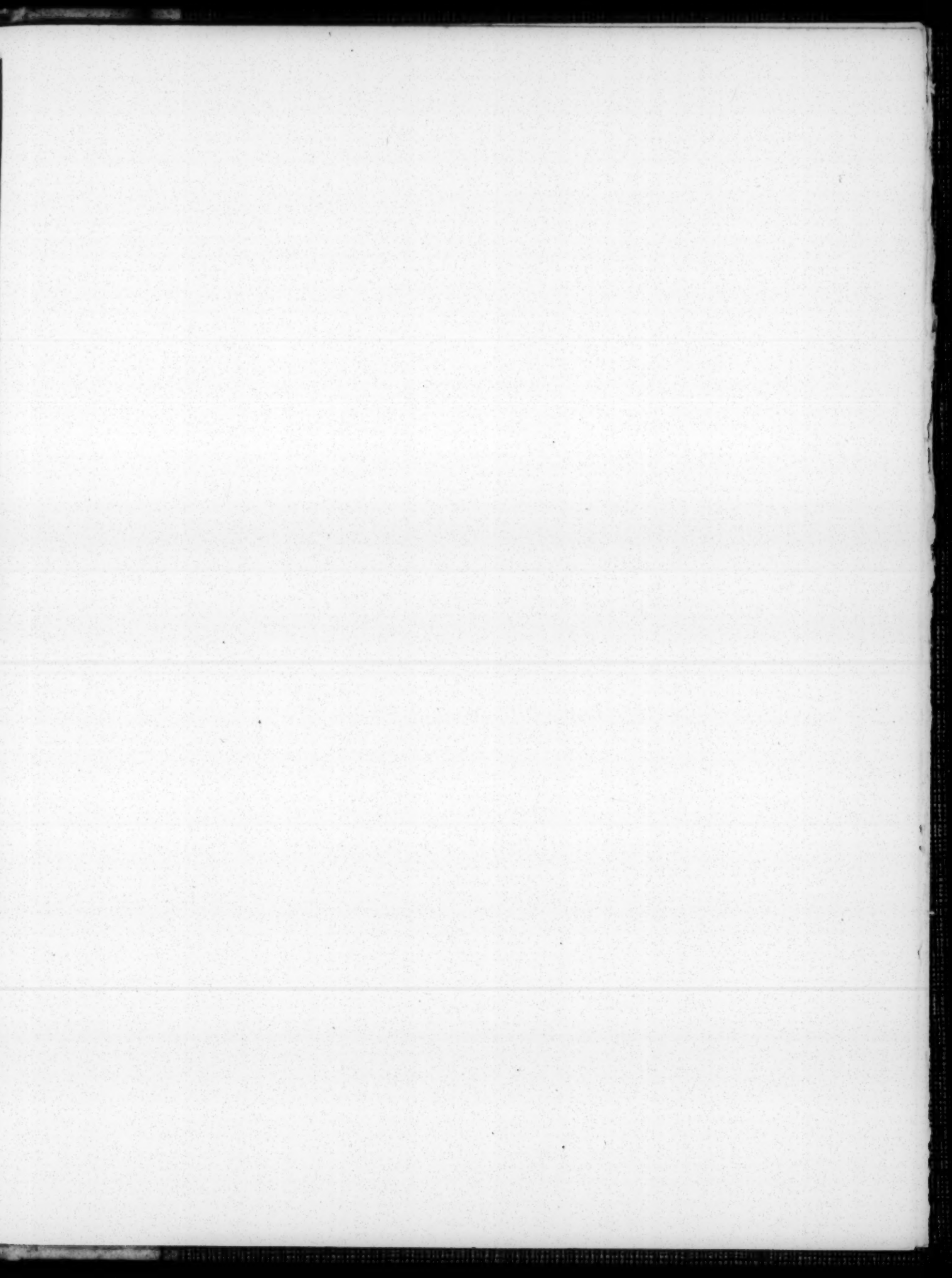


out the cause of his Imprisonment exprest, and that all men should be immediately bayled in all Cases bayle-able, and during the same Parliament that Alderman Pennington, or indeed any body else, but the sworn Ministers of Justice, should imprison whom they would, and for what they would, and for as long time as they would; That the King should be reproached with breach of Priviledge for accusing Sir Iohn Hotham of High Treason, when with force of Arms he kept him out of Hull, and despised him to his face, because in no case a Member of either House might be committed or accused without leave of that House of which he is a Member, and yet that during the same Parliament, the same Alderman should commit the Earle of Middlesex (a Peer of the Realm) & the Lord Buckhurst (a Member of the House of Commons) to the Counter, without reprehension; That to be a Traitor (which is defined and every man understands) should be no crime, and to be called Malignant (which no body knows the meaning of) should be ground enough for close Imprisonment; That a Law should be made, That whosoever should presume to take Tunnage & Poundage without an Act of Parliament, should incur the penalty of a Premunire, & the same Parliament, that the same imposition should be laid upon our Subjects, & taken by an Order of both houses, without & against our consent. Lastly, that the same Parliament, a Law should be made to declare the proceedings & judgement upon Ship-money to be illegall and void, and during that Parliament, that an Order of both Houses shall, upon pretence of necessity, inable four men to take away the twentieth part of their Estates from all their Neighbours, according to their discretion.

But Our good Subjects will no longer looke upon
 these

these and the like Resolutions, as upon the Counsellors and conclusions of both Our Houses of Parliament, (though all the world knows even that Authority can never justify things unwarrantable by the Law) they well know how few of the Persons trusted by them are present at their Consultations, of above 500 not 80. and of the House of Peers, not a fifth part, That they who are present enjoy not the Priviledge and Freedom of Parliament, but are besieged by an Army, and awed by the same Tumults which drive us and their fellow Members from thence, to consent to what some few Seditious, Schismaticall Persons amongst them do propose; These are the men, who joyning with the Anabaptists & Brownists of London, first changed the Government and Discipline of that City, and now by the pride and power of that City would undoe the Kingdom, whilst their Lord Mayor (a Person accused and known to be guilty of high Treason) by a new Legislative Power of his own, suppresses and reviles the Book of Common Prayer, robbes and imprisons whom he thinks fit, and with the rabble of his faction gives Laws to both Houses of Parliament, & tells them, They will have no Accommodation whilst the Members sent and entrusted by their Countreys are expelled the House, or committed for refusing to take the Oath of Association, to live and dye with the Earle of Essex, as very lately Sir Sidney Mountague. These are the men who have presumed to send Embassadors, and to enter into Treaties with forraign States in their own behalfs, having at this time an Agent of their own with the States of Holland, to negotiate for them upon private Instructions. These are the men, who not thinking they have yet brought mischief

enough)



enough upon this Kingdom, at this time invite and sollicite Our Subjects of Scotland to enter this Land with an Army against us. In a word, these are the men who have made this last debouring Ordinance to take away all Law, Liberty, and Property from Our People, and have by it really acted that upon Our People, which with infinite malice, and no colour or ground, was laboured to be infused into them to have been Our Intention by the Commissions of Array.

We have done, what Power and Authority these men have, or will have, we know not; for Our Self we challenge none such. We looke upon the Pressures and Inconveniencies Our good Subjects bear, even by us and Our Army, (which the Army first raised by them enforced us to leby in Our defence, and their refusall of all offers and desires of Treaty enforceth us to keep) with very much sadnelle of heart. We are so farre from requiring a Twentieth part of their Estates (though for their own visible preservation) that as we have already sold or pawned Our own Jewells, and coyned Our own Plate, so we are willing to sell all Our own Land, and Houses for their relief. Yet we do not doubt but Our good Subjects will seriously consider Our Condition and their own Duties, and think Our readinesse to protect them with the utmost hazard of Our Life, deserves their readinesse to assist us with some part of their fortunes; and whilest other men give a Twentieth part of their Estates, to enable them to forfeit the other Nineteen; that they will extend themselves to us in a liberrall and free proportion for the preservation of the rest, and for the maintenance of Gods true Religion, the Laws of the Land, the Liberty of the Subject, and the
C. 2.
safety.

safety and very being of Parliaments, and this King-
dom: for if all these were, or can be in manifest dan-
ger, tis now in this present Rebellion against us.

Lastly, we will and require all Our loving Subjects
of what degree, or quality soever, as they will answer it
to God, to us, and to Posterity, by their Oathes of Alle-
giance and Supremacy, as they would not be looked up-
on now, and remembered hereafter as Betrayers of the
Laws and Liberty they were born to: that they in no de-
gree submit to this wilde pretended Ordinance, and that
they presume not to give any encouragement or assis-
tance to the Army now in Rebellion against us:

which if notwithstanding they shall do, they must
expect from us the severest punishment the
Law can inflict, and a perpetuall In-
famy with all good men.

FINIS.

